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For Immediate Release: June 13, 2002

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### ***Kernan Announces Training Grants for Four Southeast Indiana Businesses; 692 Employees Impacted***

INDIANAPOLIS — Lt. Governor Joe Kernan announced today that four Southwest Indiana companies have been awarded training grants from the Indiana Department of Commerce Skills Enhancement Fund (SEF).

“Training is essential to growth and success – so we are pleased to support these four companies with these grants,” said Kernan, who leads the state’s economic development efforts. “Even in tough economic times, we must continually invest in our workforce so we can stay competitive. These companies are doing that and we salute their commitment to their staffs, their communities and to the state as a whole.”

- **Airguard**, New Albany, has been granted \$16, 500 to retrain 162 incumbent workers following the company’s \$750,000 investment to renovate its facility and purchase new equipment. Airguard, founded in 1964, is one of the world’s foremost manufactures of air filtration products and serves the commercial, industrial and institutional markets. Employees will pick up welding, computer, and electrical and problem solving skills as a result of the training.
- **Bert R. Huncilman and Son, Inc.**, New Albany, has been awarded a \$36,500 grant to train 10 new and 154 existing employees following a \$1.9 million investment to purchase new equipment. Established in 1913 as a family-owned tin shop, it has remained in the family and has continually grown. Today the company is a leading fabricator of metal component parts found in chemical, transportation and utility products. The grant will be used to train employees in blueprint reading, measuring techniques, computer skills, robotics and quality control processes.
- **FSI Products, Inc.**, Aurora, has received a \$5,500 grant to retrain 19 employees following \$55,600 investment in new equipment. In 1933 the Scott County company was founded as Peerless Printing Co. and became FSI in 1966. Specializing in the manufacture of passbooks and related financial supplies as well as file folders, boxes and other custom products the company has continually grown and boasts customer in all 50 states and Canada and Puerto Rico. Using the Commerce funding, FSI will train employees in new computer skills, die cutting, die making and CAD.

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- **Madison Precision Products, Inc.**, Madison, has received a \$75,000 grant to train 34 new employees and retrain 313 incumbent workers following the company's \$8.1 million investment in a new machining line. Founded in 1987, the company is a leading producer of casted and machined aluminum parts for automobile engines. With the Commerce grant, employees will pick up skills in machine, trimming, crane and forklift operation as well as training in die cast setting, blue print reading and quality control.

Commerce awards Skills Enhancement Fund grants to Indiana companies that undertake capital investment projects. The grants help defray the costs of training new and current employees in basic work skills and company-specific skills necessary to support the project. Companies interested in learning more about the Skills Enhancement Fund or other Commerce programs should contact the Business Development Division at 800.463.8081, or visit the Web Site at [www.indianacommerce.com](http://www.indianacommerce.com).

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